



THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 1, 1885.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Our Legislature adjourned on Monday last, after a session of 83 days. Like all others of their predecessors, they have left a record behind them, of good deeds done, and good deeds left undone, of sins of omission, and sins of commission, all of which will be passed on the people according to the effects produced.

We believe the session was a pretty harmonious one, and the members have evinced an industrious spirit, and general desire to do their work faithfully. They have passed a new prohibitory liquor law for the people to ratify or reject next May, as they may think proper. They have kicked the proposed insolvent law into nonentity, upset the new militia bill, and driven the Aroostook Railroad into futurity.

They have ordered the several counties to pay the costs of the criminal suits tried at their respective Courts, passed a law appointing a board of Railroad Commissioners,—made sundry re-arrangements and reforms in money matters, and wound up by giving big bonuses to the newspaper reporters. Reporters will be as thick as blackberries, next year.

OUR FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, &c.

The annual report of the Finance Committee has been issued. The pamphlet embraces, also, the Mayor's Address, reports of the City Treasurer and the several Departments, and the organization of the City Government for the present year. We gather the following items of interest from it.

The total amount appropriated and assessed, for 1885, was \$31,523.72. This assessment was made upon the following estimate:—resident valuation, \$2,377,239; non-resident valuation, \$130,691. The rate of taxation was 1-5 per cent. on resident, and 1 1/2 mills on a dollar, on non-resident property. Whole number of polls assessed, 1422.

The total expenditures of the city amount to \$37,218.09, a part of which is chargeable to the year previous. There remain appropriated and undrawn by the several departments, \$8,404.70.

The principal items of expenditure are, State tax, \$3,674.12; County tax, \$3,083.85; highways, \$4,917.30; support of poor, \$3,520.95; schools, \$8,046.83; printing, \$337.47; fire department, \$254.05; city debt, \$2,450; river note and interest, \$740; interest on loans, \$1,615.85; abatement, \$830.08; discounts, \$2,253.33; new streets, \$228.63; contingent, \$2,516.74.

The liabilities of the city amount to \$35,654.08; of which \$29,640.40 are for loans, \$600 of which was due the 19th ult., and \$3,200.40 mature during the year. The time for paying the balance extends to 1887, the average amount falling due, each year, being \$2,838.88.

The resources of the city are \$7,676.73 uncollected taxes; due from other towns, \$887.72; due from State Bank of 1887, \$1,024.17; cash in treasury, \$1,044.53; total, \$10,653.13. The balance against the city is \$25,000.95.

The city property is valued at \$11,728.21. The city farm and buildings are estimated at \$4,500; personal property at some \$148,221; Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, \$1,200; Atlantic and Pacific engines, \$2,000; engine house and lot, \$1,500; the Deluge engine and apparatus, tools and lumber, &c., &c., make up the balance.

It appears that during the year just passed the indebtedness of the city has been decreased \$4,558.08. The Finance Committee state that the liabilities of the city cannot exceed the amount above named more than \$300. The accounts of the city, kept by the Mayor, are correctly kept, and show the standing of each department, at all times, and the names of each person to whom payments have been made.

The report of the Superintendent of the City Farm shows that the total expenditures for the past year, exclusive of the pay of Superintendent, \$285.83, were \$1,540.99. Of this amount, \$625.44 was received for products of the farm. The Chief Engineer of Fire Department reports seven alarms of fire, the first year,—losses about \$6,200; insurance, \$1,700.

The City Marshal reports 140 prosecutions instituted by him before the Municipal Court, of which 7 resulted in discharge, 21 were fined and paid, 93 were committed, and 19 bound over. The charges were, rummeling, 6; drunkenness, 60; stealing, 23; assault, 33; other crimes, 18. An ordinance respecting the overseers of the Poor, passed March 13, 1885, is added to the reports embraced in this pamphlet. It is for the interest of every voter to procure one of these reports, that he may thereby inform himself of the doings of the city government the past year, and satisfy himself of the good or bad management of our financial concerns.

CREDITABLE. On the 21st ult., the store and goods of Mr. Silas C. Hatch of Bangor were destroyed by fire. Mr. H. was insured for \$5,000 at the Fire and Marine Office, Springfield, Mass., and the company having been notified of the loss, by telegraph, on Monday, their agent reached Bangor on Tuesday, made the necessary examination, and paid over the insurance on Wednesday, less than three days from the time of the fire. It is a pity that all insurance companies could not be equally prompt.

STEAM NAVIGATION. As the opening of navigation is at hand, the steamers are preparing for the season's operations. We understand that the Eastern Queen will run between Hallowell and Boston, the coming season, having been thoroughly overhauled and put in order.

The steamer T. F. Seor will run as heretofore, between this city and Portland, and as it is most pleasant route, and the Seor is a favorite with travelers, she will doubtless do a good business. Both of the boats will commence running as soon as the river is clear of ice.

TEAM LOST. On Wednesday of last week, as a double team belonging to Mr. Geo. R. Buffum, of Yarmouth, and driven by his son, was returning home from this city, on the river, when a few miles above here, they came upon a weak place in the ice and immediately broke through and were swept under. Young Buffum and a companion narrowly escaped. The team was a valuable one, one of the horses being valued at \$200.

ACCIDENT. On Monday last, while a load of stone for the new jail was being deposited, the tongue of the hind pair of wheels flew over and struck Mr. Webb, the contractor, upon his head, injuring him severely, and at first supposed fatally. We are pleased to learn, however, that his injuries are not so serious as was feared, and that he will recover.

NOTICES of several new works unavoidably deferred.

COURT RECORD.

Superior Judicial Court.

Actions disposed of during fortnight ending March 30, 1885.

MARCH 17. No. 416. Daniel Marston et al. vs. Joseph G. Davis, Appt. Action of assumpsit. Verdict for the plaintiffs, damages assessed in the sum of \$21.37.

No. 411. Nathaniel K. Chadwick et al. vs. Emerald McCurdy et al. Action of assumpsit. Verdict for the defendant; damages assessed on defendant's account in offset, \$6.61.

MARCH 18. No. 433. Samuel Kinball et al. vs. Isaac Downham. Action of ejectment. Verdict for the plaintiff. Damages assessed in the sum of \$10.

No. 444. John W. Douglas et al. vs. Enoch Marshall, Appt. Action of assumpsit. Verdict for the plaintiff. Damages assessed in the sum of \$12.

No. 481. Newall Chamberlain et al. vs. William Williams. Action of assumpsit. Verdict for the plaintiff. Damages assessed at \$25.61.

No. 479. Henry Cutler et al. vs. James Shearman et al. Action of assumpsit. After the evidence was out, the matter was referred to two members of the jury as referees, who made an award in favor of the plaintiff for \$62.50, the amount for which the defendant offered to be defaulted.

The criminal docket was this morning taken up, and the first case presented to the jury was that of State vs. N. S. Stimpson, charged with having set fire to his own dwelling house, with intent to defraud the insurers thereof. The jury after a consultation of some eight hours returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

MARCH 25. State vs. James P. Crossman. Assault and battery. The jury were unable to agree.

MARCH 27. Eunice F. Prescott, Libellant for divorce vs. Russell Prescott. Decree refused.

Francis E. Atkins, Libellant for divorce vs. Chas. W. Atkins. Decision not yet made.

MARCH 29. James M. Keith, Libellant for divorce vs. Helen M. Keith. Divorce decreed.

George Humble was brought into Court on a charge of forgery, and upon being arraigned pleaded "not guilty." Sentenced to four years' imprisonment in the State Prison.

The following gentlemen have been admitted to practice law during the present session: H. W. True, Hiram O. Butterfield, Larkin Danton, Reuben Foster, and Everett R. Drummell.

DOES CULTIVATION AMELIORATE THE CLIMATE?

We have had this question put to us several times lately. Cultivation certainly changes the climate in many respects. Old people tell us that in the central parts of Maine, there does not so much snow fall, nor does it remain so long on the earth as it did in the early settlement of the country, when there was but little cultivation.

Whether the average amount of cold or heat is realized now in those places we are not able to say. The prevalence and continuance of snow does not necessarily involve an extra amount of cold weather, or in other words we may have as much or more cold weather without snow as we have with it.

We copy the following assertions from writers on this subject, and our readers may take them with such allowances as they please. Italy has at present a warm climate, and winter frosts are seldom known, not so in the days of Horace, as he speaks of the streets of Rome being covered with snow and ice.

In the year 480 the river Tiber was frozen over solid; the trees were destroyed by the intensity of the frost, and the ground was covered with snow forty days. Juvenal also frequently mentions that the Tiber freezes over. It does not freeze over now.

By old writers, Gaul, which we now call France, was represented as a cold inhospitable climate. Strabo describes the northern part of Spain as being thus inhabited, because it was so cold.

Varro describes the inland countries of Europe as suffering almost perpetual winter. If these old accounts are true, the countries referred to are wonderfully changed from a severe to a very mild climate, and the causes for it are attributable to the cultivation of the country.

If like causes will produce like effects we may expect that a long course of cultivation will ameliorate our climate in the same manner and in the same process of time some changes of the kind may be expected in our climate from the same cultivation.

THE BELLS.

Have our city fathers been reading Poer's works, lately? One would suppose, from a perusal of the doings of the Council, last Saturday, that such was the case, and that they had been particularly pleased with his poem of "The Bells."

Be that as it may, we are pleased to see the order which they passed providing for the ringing of the bell at the usual hours, as has been the custom here, and which from a luxury has become a positive necessity. Like the Council, we think the citizens generally would be better pleased with, and more certainly notified of "the lapse of time" by the bell on the old South Parish Church, than by any other bell in the city. Aside from its peculiar and familiar tone, its situation is especially favorable for a city bell. We hope arrangements may be made with the Society, for its being rung, that shall be satisfactory to both parties.

With respect to the complaints of injury to property, heretofore made by the Society, and justly, for what we know, that might be easily obviated, at a small expense, (and probably the city would pay that), by enclosing the bell rope so that access could be had to it from the south door, only, and no communication allowed with any other portion of the building than the small space necessary for the ringing of the bell. But at all events, let us have some bell rung, regularly.

OLD FOLKS' CONCERT. The songs and costumes of "old lang syne" are well sung and faithfully delineated by the troupe of singers who have advertised to give an "Old Folks' Concert" at Meadon Hall, this Wednesday evening. We think we can promise a most interesting performance to all who may favor them with their patronage.

AGUSTA SHOE FACTORY. The Shoe Factory in this city which has been still, during the past winter, has again been started up by our enterprising neighbor, A. D. Brown. If you want an A. N. I. shoe, that will enter the ground easy and slide off as easy, friend Brown will supply you in first rate shape.

GOOD COWS FOR SALE. Those who are in pursuit of good blooded cows are referred to the advertisement of Mr. Chamberlain, in another column. Mr. Chamberlain is a breeder of good stock.

GATHERED NEWS FRAGMENTS, &c.

Submission of Billy Bowlegs. The Savannah News states that a gentleman just from Florida reports that Billy Bowlegs had been into camp at Fort Meade, and agreed to leave with his entire tribe, "lock, stock and barrel," for the West, on the terms proposed by the government. He left Fort Meade for the purpose of collecting his people and making arrangements for a speedy departure.

Encountering a Whirlpool. The British brig Alma arrived at New York on Saturday morning, N. P., reports that on the 17th inst., about four miles from the Hole in the Wall, blowing a three knot breeze, got into a whirlpool which turned the vessel around in thirty-five seconds, and kept her turning, sometimes half way and back, and sometimes all the way around, for two hours and a quarter, when the breeze became stronger, and she succeeded in getting out without receiving any damage.

More Steam Fire Engines. Two or more steam fire engines were lately purchased by the city of St. Louis, Missouri, and another is to be ordered. The insurance companies and agencies of that city have also contracted for two of the same size and pattern as those purchased by the city. Price \$5,500 each. The Democrat says that St. Louis has now a fair prospect of perishing by a deluge than by a conflagration.

Sad Accident. A son of Wm. Moran of Brunswick was badly injured by being caught up by some of the gears of the saw mill where he was working. His escape from instant death was miraculous. It is thought he will recover.

Heavy Robbery. New Orleans, March 23. A heavy robbery was committed in this city on Sunday. The office of Henry Shepherd, Jr., was robbed of \$1500 and \$100.00 in notes. An advertisement cautions the public against negotiating the notes, and offers a large reward for their recovery.

Destructive Fire in Elizabeth City, N. C. Petersburg, Va., March 22. A fire broke out this morning at Elizabeth City, N. C., destroying several stores, including those of N. A. Cohen, White & Lavery, W. B. Burgess, S. D. Knox, B. T. Miller, J. C. Grandy, William Shannon, H. Culpepper, B. Sprewell, W. H. Clark, C. M. Lafferty and others. Loss immense. The Marine Hospital is also in ruins. N. A. Cohen has been arrested on suspicion of being the incendiary.

Discharged. Charles L. Taylor, who was arrested on suspicion of having committed murder at the time the Pacific Hotel, in St. Louis, was burnt, has been discharged from custody, there being no evidence to substantiate the suspicion. Taylor was on a spree at the time of the fire, and according to the St. Louis Democrat, while under the influence of liquor invented the stories which caused his arrest.

The Cannon Foundry Fire. The loss by the burning of the cannon foundry of Knapp, Wade & Co., at Pittsburgh, Pa., is estimated at \$184,000, on which there is only \$37,500 insurance. The works were the most complete and extensive in the western country, and were founded in 1814. In the manufacture of cannon the establishment could not be excelled, their guns being superior to those made at West Point.

Fire at Scarborough. The dwelling-house and barn of Mr. Edward Thompson, at Scarborough, Me., were destroyed by fire on Saturday afternoon, 20th ult. One yoke of oxen, two horses, and some other small stock, were consumed. The fire originated in the barn, in what manner is unknown.

Mad Dog Excitement. About a week ago a valuable dog belonging to Mr. Lock, a butcher of Saxonville, Mass., was attacked with hydropsy, escaped from his owner, and attacked and bit all the dogs that came in his way, until at last some one was able to put an end to his existence. The alarmed citizens then made war upon the wounded dogs, one of which was already gone mad, while others were exhibiting the fatal symptoms. Eight dogs have been dispatched, and it is not known that any others were bitten.

Fire at Baltimore. Baltimore, March 25. A fire broke out this morning in South Frederick street, which consumed a factory, owned by Cook & Johnson, together with its contents. Insured for \$2000 in the Franklin Company, Philadelphia, and \$4000 in the Firemen's Company, Baltimore. A large horse house adjoining, and a three story dwelling house, belonging to Dr. Johnson, were also burnt. Many of the neighboring houses are more or less damaged. Aggregate loss \$10,000. This afternoon a portion of the walls fell in, severely injuring several boys, one or two, it is thought, fatally.

Fall of a Suspension Bridge. St. John, N. B., March 25. Last night one-third of the flooring of the suspension bridge, across the falls, together with the strings, gave way. The suspending rods are hanging loose from the cables, and the service of wire on the cable over the pillars seems to be chafed.

Western Emigration. St. Louis, March 25. Western emigration has fairly set in. The number of emigrants passing through the city is very large, and daily increases. The Pacific Railroad takes over an hundred a day, and the Missouri river steamers are crowded.

Fire at Boston. The Grove Cottage Hotel, at Buxton Centre, was destroyed by fire Thursday with a total loss of all its contents. It was owned by Mark P. Emery, Esq., of Portland, and was insured for \$4,000. It is supposed that the fire took from a defect in one of the chimneys.

Fatal Result. Ex-Alderman Smith, of New York, who was shot by mistake by some rowdies, while on his way to church with his wife, died a few days afterwards.

A Royal Midshipman. It is reported that Prince Alfred, second son of Queen Victoria, has been appointed Midshipman in the Euryalus, a 51 crew frigate, now getting ready for a three years' cruise.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE. One of the leading illustrated articles in the April number of this magazine, "Pictures from Siberia and Tartary," we have transferred to the fourth page of this week's paper. It is a review of the work on Siberia which was noticed last week. "Tropical Journeys," and "An American at Sinai," are the other illustrated articles. It is a very good number, and for this paper.

ACCIDENT IN BANGOR. On Saturday while a large crowd were in attendance at an auction sale in Bangor, the floor of the room gave way and precipitated the whole company present into the cellar. Singularly enough no one was killed nor even seriously injured. It was a narrow escape.

ICE GONE. The ice at this place has broken up and gone down river. No more free bridges until another year. The prospect is now, that the river will be open at an early period, if you reason.

FAST DAY. The 8th of April is appointed for Fast Day in New Hampshire. Maine and Massachusetts observe the 15th. Gov. Morrill's proclamation will be found in another place.

LIBELS PLINY. The New York Herald states that Ex-Mayor Fernando Wood will shortly institute against the New York Tribune suit for libel, on the ground that it had published a series of articles, no less than seven hundred and fifty distinct libels.

Reported for the Maine Farmer.

DOINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27.

The bonds of J. G. Phinney, Street Commissioner, H. W. Morton and Levi Hicks, Constables, Thos. Little and R. Fenn, Overseers of the Poor, and J. W. Patterson, Treasurer and Collector, were read and approved. The appointment of Henry Norcross, policeman, was confirmed.

The Chief Engineer of Fire Department presented a list of 30 names as members of Atlantic Engine Co., No. 3, from and after the first Monday in April. Accepted.

An order passed providing for the payment to members of the Atlantic Co. No. 3, for the past year, ten dollars each.

The Committee on Bells and Clocks were directed to contract with some suitable person to ring use of the Church bells, five times each day, at the usual hours, six days each week, at a price not exceeding one hundred dollars per annum, and to make a contract shall begin, including use of bell and all expenses, giving preference to the South Parish bell, if the same can be obtained. The committee were also directed to contract with some suitable person to take care of and keep in repair the city clock, for one year, at a price not exceeding five dollars.

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STATE OF MAINE.

BY THE GOVERNOR.

A PROCLAMATION.

FOR A DAY OF

Public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer.

"The people believed in God, and proclaimed a fast."

Our forefathers, emancipated from the thralldom of oppression, and striving for communion with the Father, in the midst of a world of sin and iniquity, sought to express a worship, through the forms of a Christian Commonwealth, which should recognize God as the central idea, and the will of God as the criterion of justice and source of temporal and spiritual attainment; and in the exercise of this sentiment "proclaim an annual fast."

Responsive to their religious sense, and honoring their example, and conscious, moreover, that a grateful recollection of the Divine goodness is the first human obligation, I do hereby, with the advice of the Executive Council, appoint Thursday, the fifteenth day of April, next, to be observed as a day of Public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer.

As on this day we repair to our respective places of worship, in view of the Infinite Goodness, and our own shortcomings, we may do so with a deep sense of our unworthiness, in penitence for our sins, and in submission to the Divine will, by abstinent observance, we interrupt the ordinary habits of life, stop the flow of business and pleasure, deprecate the existence of present evil, and that which may fall upon us, and our beloved country, and supplicate for mercy and forgiveness, may, each, by meditation, self-examination, and study of the Holy Scriptures, and by abstinent observance, we interrupt the ordinary habits of life, stop the flow of business and pleasure, deprecate the existence of present evil, and that which may fall upon us, and our beloved country, and supplicate for mercy and forgiveness, may, each, by meditation, self-examination, and study of the Holy Scriptures, and by abstinent observance, we interrupt the ordinary habits of life, stop the flow of business and 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